NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1875.

Vol. XXXV No. 10,834.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEES.

DISAPPOINTED ASPIRANTS AMONG THE DEMOCRATS-REPUBLICANS SATISFIED-HARD-MONEY COMMITTEES-THE PACIFIC RAILROAD A LITTLE

DOUBTFUL BUT MAY DO.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 .- The organization of the House of Representatives was completed to-day by the appointment of the standing committees. After the customary holiday recess, which this year will be a little longer than it has been before for several years, its members, will return to Washington the first week of the new year, and begin the real work of the XLIVth Congress. The Speaker has devoted nearly all his time since his election, two weeks ago, to the responsible, and in the present instance unasnally difficult task of bringing legislative order out of the chaos of almost three hundred new members, a majority of whom appear upon the floor of the House for the first time, and a large proportion of whom are comparatively unknown to the country and to each other. The task has been one that has required the exercise of the most untiring industry, and it has severely tested the strength of Mr. Kerr in his present weak condition. During that two weeks, except when the House was in session, he might have been found at almost any hour of the day or evening, in his room at Willard's, courteously receiving suggestions from every quarter, or in consultation with the trusted leaders of the party; but he was remarkably successful in keeping his own counsel, and only now and then at long intervals did a hint escape upon which any one could base a conjecture in regard to any one of the important committees. The task of the Speaker was unusually difficult, because in addition to so organizing the House as to insure facility and success in the transaction of business, he was also expected to give to the important committees such character as to strengthen his party in the approaching Presidential campaign; and this was not an easy thing to do, when he had to take into consideration the ambition of Representatives, and the conflicting interests of different sections and different enterprises.

To the members themselves, the session to-day was one of the most intense interest, and yet the attendance was smaller than on any previous day during the session. The leaders of both parties were all there, but many more obscure men, who expected little, availed themselves of the opportunity to increase the length of their vacation, either by going home on Friday last or by not returning from Philadelphia. Among the most conspicuous absentees were Mr. Holman on the Democratic side, and Mr. Seelye and Mr. Banks, who, though, liberals, have seats among the Republicans. There was no extraordinary crowd in the galleries. Secretary Bristow occupied a seat on the floor by the side of Mr. Blaine.

After the reading of the journal the Speaker presented one or two Executive communications, the general hum and confusion continuing in the chamber while the Clerk read their titles; but when Mr. Kerr handed to the reader a thick bunch of papers and said that, with the permission of the House, he would announce the committees, the buzz of voices ceased at once. Members who had been writing or talking sat erect and faced the Speaker, and the change was almost as sudden and simultaneous as the execution of a military order by a regiment of soldiers. As the long lists were read the faces of the members were an interesting study. Mr. Wood, who had a few minutes before begun writing a letter, did not look up when his name was announced as second on the Ways and Means Committee; but a few minutes later he put down his pen, leaned back in his chair, folded his arms, and listened to the reading with that distinguished air that makes him and dignified prominent an object in the House, Some of those who were named as chairmen, or were given desirable places on the committees seemed agreeably surprised, while others took it as a matter of course, as though they had had private information beforehand. Another class who had hoped for good positions, and who had intimated to the Speaker in advance that they would like to be on the Banking and Currency Committee, or the Appropriations or Foreign Committees, looked disappointed when these committees were read and their names did not appear; and as the reader advanced with the ist some of them seemed to think that they had been forgotten altogether. It was difficult, after adjournment, to get any general expression from the members in regard to the committees, but it was easy to see that there was a great disappointment among many Democrats, and this evening a majority of those still in the city seem to be much disgusted with the general arrangement. The controversy between Mr. Cox and Mr. Wood has heretofore been referred to. It is understood that Mr. Kerr consulted both of these men, and as neither would agree that the other should be Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, he determined that neither should. The result is that neither is satisfied with his position. Mr. Wood thinks that he was entitled to the Chairmanship, and Mr. Cox does not like his place at the head of the Committee on

Mr. Bliss of Brooklyn thinks he has been very un justly treated. Representing, as he says, the third Democratic city in the country, in which is situated one of the important navy-yards, he has has neither been placed on one of the money committees or on the Naval Committee, but on that of Invalid Pensions. He intimates that after his work in Mr. Kerr's behalf this is rather shabby treatment. Another Dem ocratic member who was sadly disappointed said that if the committees had been drawn by lot they could not have been worse constructed. It is safe to say that there is more disappointment and disgust among the Democrats than satisfaction. The leading Republicans of the House consider themselves as well treated. The recognized leaders have been placed in positions where they will have the best advantages, and the Speaker seems either to have consolted the wishes of his political opponents more, or to have given more heed to their wishes, than to

Banking and Currency.

The money committees are almost the first to be The Committee on Ways and Means, as was remarked last night, is strongly in favor of hard money, and no wild-cat inflation scheme will be favorably entertained by it. The majority will also favor a revenue tariff, but this question is not likely to be acted upon by the House this session. The Committee on Appropriations is not believed to be radically economical in its tendency, as it was hoped it would be. While Mr. Randall will favor very large reductions in public expenditures, and will be more than sustained by his first lieutenant on the Committee, Mr. Holman, and they may be able to carry the Committee with them in the proposed reduction of \$50,000,000, the Committee, as a whole, is not composed of that stiff stuff that many hoped to see it made up of. The Banking and Currency Committee is believed to be in favor of honest currency, though it is probably not as pronounced on this question as the Committee on Ways and

Great surprise was expressed at the character of the Committee on Pacific Railroads, and the strongest opponents of that scheme asserted that it had been constructed in favor of a subsidy. It is learned from an examination of the record on Mr. Helman's anti-subsidy resolution last week that three of the new Committee voted against it and in reality in favor of granting subsidies. They were Mr. Lamar, the Chairman, Mr. Throckmorton, and Mr. O'Neill. Three of the new Committee were absent from the House, or dodged. They were Messrs. Walker, Atkins, and Platt. The remainder, seven in number, voted for Mr. Holman's resolution, and, unless they mean to be inconsistent, or had a mental reserthe Committee will be opposed to "Tora" Scott's scheme. At the same time the Committee is not as strong on this question as it was hoped it would be, and not as strong as the vote on Mr. Holman's resolution would have warranted the Speaker in making

The majority of the District of Columbia Committee are new members. The Chairman is a good lawyer, and not in any way mixed up with the Ring. The Republicans on the Committee are believed to be good men. In regard to the other committees it is impossible to get an expression to-night.

THE LIST.

GENERAL PRESS DISPATOR.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 .- The following are the Committees of the House, as announced by Speaker

[Democrats in Roman, Republicans in *italics*, Liberals and Independents designated by abbreviations; members of the last Congress marked *; members having previous services on the Committees to which they are now assigned marked t.]

On Elections—Mr. Harris* of Virginia, Chairman; Messrs, Thompson of Massachusetts, Elackburn of Kentucky, Beebe of New-York, House of Tennesses, De Bolt of Missouri, Poppleton of Ohio, Hoar* of Massachusetts, Wells of Mississippi, Laker of Indiana, and Brown of Kansas.

On Ways and Means—Mr. MORRISON* of Illinois, Chairman; Messrs, Woodt* of New-York, Hancock* of Texas, Thomas* of Maryland, Hill of Georgia, Chapin of Massachusetts, Tucker of Virg.ma, Blaine* of Maine, Kelleyt* of Pennsylvama, Garfield* of Ohio, and Burchard of Illinoist*.

On Appropriations-Mr. RANDALL* of Pennsylva nia, Chairman; Messrs, Hoiman* of Indiana, Wells of Missouri, Atkius* of Tennessee, Hamilton* of New J usey, Blount of Georgia, Singleton of Mississi Wheelert of New-York, Hale to of Maine, Foster Onio, Waldron of Michigan.

On Banking and Currency—Mr. Cox* of New-York, Chairman; Messis, Payne of Ohio, Goode of Vir-ginia, Gibson of Louisiana, Haymond of Indiana, Burchard of Wisconsin, Wike of Illinois, 'ownsend* of Pennsylvania, Kasson* of Iowa, Lames* of Rhode Island, and Hubbelli* of Michigan.

On Pacific Railroads-Mr. LAMAR' of Mississippi On Pacific Raitrodds—Mr. LAMAR of Mississippi, Chairman; Messrs, Atkins* of Tennessee, Luttrell* of California, Walker of Virginia, Lynde of Wiscon-sin, throckmorton of Texas, Thomas of Maryland, Phillips of Missouri, Gazfield* of Onio, Kasson* of Iowa, Plats* of New-York, O'Acill* of Pennsylvania, and Elair of New-Hampsaire.

On the Judiciary-Mr. KNOTT of Keptucky, Chair-On the Juneary—Mr. KNOTT of Kertucky, Chairman: Messrs. Hunton* of Virginia, Ashe* of North Carolina, Lynde of Wisconsin, Lord of New-York, Hurd of Ohio, Caulheld of Illinois, McCrary* of Lowa, Lawrence* of Ohio, Fryet* of Maine, and Starkweather* of Connecticut.

On Public Lands—Mr. SAYLER* of Ohio, Chairman; Messrs, Goodwin of Kansas, Fuiler of Indiana, Me-Farland of Tennessee, Walling of Ohio, Ganse of Arkansas, Lane of Oregon. Hathorn* of New-York, McDill* of Iowa, Moreyt* of Louisiana, and Crounse* of Nebrody

On Foreign Agairs—Mr. Swann* of Maryland, Chairman; Messrs, Faulkner of West Virginia, Banks (Lib. Rep.) of Massachusetts, Barnum* of Connecticut. Ely* of New-York, Haanilton of Indiana, Springer of Illinois, Forney of Alabama, Monroe* of Ohio, builliams!* of Wisconsin, and Banker of Panneylyania. Monroe of Ohio, Witte Packer of Pennsylvania.

On Military Agairs—Mr. BANNING* (Lib. Rep.) of Ohio, Cha-Fman: Messrs, Giover* of Missouri, "A. 8. Williams of Michigan, Terry* of Virginia, Cook* of Georgia, John Renlly of Pennsylvania, Hardenburg, of New-Jersey, MacDosgall; of New-York, Thornburgh; of Tennessee, Harlbut of Illinois, and

On Commerce—Mr. Heryford's of West Virginia, Chairman; Messrs. Ward of New-York, Duraud of Michigan, Reagan of Texas, Piper of California, Kehr of Missouri, Pierce's of Massachusetts, Petton of Georgia, Hunter's of Indiana, Loes's of Pennsylvania, Dunnell's of Minnesota.

Post-Offices and Post Roads-Mr. CLARK* of Mis-Fost-Opices and Fost Roads—Mr. CLARK of Mis-souri, Chairman; Messrs, Waddell's of North Caro-lina, Luttrell' of California, Ainsworth of Iowa, Walker of New-York, Messahon of Olide, Slemons of Arkansas, Cannon of Illinois, Miller of New-York, Stowells' of Virginia, and Mallace' of South Carolina.

On Claims-Mr. BRIGHT of Tennessee, Chairman On Claims—Mr. Brildh? of Pennessee, Chairman; Messrs. Neal* of Ohio, Brown* of Kentucky, Rob-bins* of No-th Carolina, Tarbox of Massachusetts, Cochrane of Pennsylvania, Phillips of Missouri, Pratt* of Iowa, East of New-York, Leadley* of Michi-gan, and Cason* of Indiana. On War Claims-Mr. EDEN' of Illinois, Chairman;

Messrs. Militken" of Kentucky, Warren of Massa-chusetta, Cabell of Virginia, Enis of Louisiana, New of Indiana, Caidwell" of Alabama, Conger" of Michi-gan, Smith" of Pennsylvania, Wilson" of Iowa, and Hoskins" of New-York. Noval Affairs-Mr. WILTTHORNET of Tennes

On Naval Affairs—Mr. Wh'THOUNET Of Tennessee, Charrman; Messrs Lewis of Alabama, Milis of Texas, Jones of New-Hampshire, Willis (Lib.) of New-York, Williams of Delaware, Robbins of Fennsylvania, Burleght of Manne, Harris' of Massachusetts, Hayst' of Alabama, and Lanfordt of Ohio.

On Recision of Laws-Mr. Durham' of Kentucky, Chairman; Messrs, Southara' of Ohio, Bell of New-Hampshire, Metealf of New-York, Teese of New-Jersey, Douglas of Virginia, Sparks of Ilimois, Crapo of Massachusetts, Denison of Vermont, Olicer of Iowa, and Robinson of Indiana.

On Education and Labor-Mr. WALKER of Virginia. On Faucation and Lador-Mit. Vallets of Visions Chairman; Messis, Lamari' of Miss.ssippi, Faulkner of West Virginia, Cutier of New-Jersey, Steinger of Pennsylvania, Clark' of Missouri, Springer of Illinois, Ladort' of Massachusetts, Lagoon of Wisconsin, White of Kentucky, and Nash of Louisinia.

On District of Columbia—Mr. BUCKNER* of Missouri, Chairman; Messrs. Neal* of Ohio. Phens of Connecticut, Cate of Wisconsin, Hartridge of Georgia, Henkle of Maryland, Stevenson (Lad.) of Hinners, Mourary* of Iowa, Williad* of Minigan, Hendeef* of Vermont, and Phillips* of Kansas.

On Public Buildings and Grounds—Mr. Holman" of Indiana, Chairman; Messrs, Weils of Missouri, Har-rison of Ihinois, Cook of Georgia, Hewitt of New-York, Walsh of Maryland, Young of Tennessee, W. B. Williams of Michigan, Boodworth of Ohio, Plats-ted of Maine, and Kimball of Wisconsin.

On Patents—Mr. VANCE* of North Carolina, Chairman; Messis. Bagley, jr., of New-York, Douglas of Virgina, Landers of Connecticut, Hartzell of Ilinois, Clark of Kentucky, Smith of Georgia, Congert* of Michigan, Lobbinst* of New-Jersey, Sampson of Iowa, and Hoge of South Carolina.

On Invalid Pensions-Mr. JENKS of Pennsylvania. On Invalid Pensions—Mr. JENKS of Pennsylvania, Chairman; Messrs. Bagby (Ind.) of illinois, Wilson of West Virginia, Biss (L.b.) of New-York, Hewitt of Alabama, Rice of Oino, Yeates of North Carolina, Luck of Wisconsin, Sinnickson of New-Jersey, Par-man* of Fiorida, and Kainey* of South Carolina.

On Revolutionary Pensions-Mr. HUNTON' of Viron Accountment Pensions—Mr. HUNTON* of Virginia, Chairman; Messirs, B.and* of Missouri, Phelps of Connecticut, Clarke of Kentucky, Hurd of Ohio, Davis of North Caronias, Schumaker* of New-York, Iownsend of New-York, Iobbins* of New-Jersey, Henderson of Illinois, and Williams of New-York.

On Indian Affairs—Mr. Scales of North Carolina, Chairman; Messrs, Wilshire of Arkansas, Boone of Kentucky, Sparks of Hinnois, Hooker of Mississippi, Morgan of Missouri, Lane of Oregon, Seelye (Ind.) of Massachusetts, Page* of California, Fan Foorhes of Ohio, and Tafts of Iowa.

On Weights and Measures—Mr. STEPHENS* of Georgia, Chairman; Messrs. O'Brien* of Maryland, Potter of Michigan, Saylert* of Ohio, Parsons of Kentucky, Levy of Louisiana, Maish of Pennsylvania, Wildardt* of Michigan, C. G. Williams* of Wisconsin, Chittenden* (Ind.) of New-York, and Seelye (Ind.) of Massachusetts.

On Territories-Mr. SOUTHARD* of Ohio, Chair-On Territories—Mr. SOUTHARD of Ohio, Chairman; Messrs, Caldwell of Tennessee, Mutchler of Pennsylvania, Franklin of Missouri, Meade of New-York, Culberson of rexas, Wigginton of California, Forti of Illinois, Mackey (Ind.) of South Carolina, Freeman of Pennsylvania, Bagley of New-York and Patterson of Colorado.

On Agriculture—Mr. CALDWELL of Alabama, Chairman: Messrs. Harris of Georgia, Mansi of Pennsylvania, Davis of North Carolina, Rea of Muscouri, Goodin of Kansas, Anderson (Ind.) of Hinois, Smith of Pennsylvania, Luck of Wisconsin, Fan Foorhes of Ohio, and Smalls of South Carolina.

On Mines and Mining-Mr. BLAND" of Missouri, Chairman; Messrs. Turney of Pennsylvania, Durham* of Kentucky, Potter of Michigan, Odeli of New-York, Gibson of Louisiana, Campbell (Lab.) of Illinois, Ecans of Indiana, Woodburn of Nevada, caswell of Wisconsin, and Lynch.* of Mississippi.

On Private Land Claims—Mr. "GUNTER of Arkansae, Chairman; Messra, Buckner" of Missouri, Parsons of Kentucky, Powell of Pennsylvania, Candler of Georgia, Levy of Louisiana, Ainsworth of Iowa, Kelahum of Pennsylvania, Joyce of Vermont, Cannon" of Illinois, and Lapham of New-York.

On Public Expenditures—Mr. MILLIKEN* of Kentucky, Chairmau; Messrs. Hatcher* of Missouri, Terry of Virgima, Cowan of Onio, Dibrell of Tenwith with relish.

nessee, James B. Reilly of Pennsylvania, Campbe'l (Lib.) of Illinois, Whiting of Illinois, Norton of New-York, Wood of Pennsylvania, and Harakon of Alabama.

Chairman; Mesers, Stonet' of Missouri, Savage of Ohio, Meade or New-York; Schleicher of Texas, Mackey of Pennsylvania, Landers of Indiaua, Davy of New-York, Henderson of Illinois, Frost of Massachusetts, and Hoge of South Carolina.

On Mississippi Lerces—Mr. ELLIS of Louisiana, Chairman; Messrs. Hatcher* of Missouri, Wilshire of Arkansas, Mooney of Mississippi, Roberts of Maryland, Young of Tennessee. Sheakley of Penn-sylvania, Dunnell* of Minnesota, Whiting of Illinois, Morey!*, of Louisiana, and Wallace of Pennsylvania.

On Reform in the Civil Service—Mr. WHITEHOUSE!*
(Lib.) of New-York, Charman; Messrs. Brown, of
Kentucky, Throckmorton of Texas, Payne of Ohio,
Collins of Pennsylvania, De Bolt of Missouri, Cutier
of New-Jersey, Hurlbut, of Illinois, Harris, of Massachusetts, Foster, of Ohio, Leavenworth of New-York.

On Manufactures—Mr. STONE* of Missouri, Chairman; Messrs. Dibrell of Tennessee, Ross of New-Jersey, Williams of Alabama, Hopkins of Pennsylvania, Money of Mississippi, Burehard of Wisconsin, Farcellt* of Illinois, Ballou of Rhode Island, Williams of New-York, and Hyman of North Carolina.

On Militia—Mr. Cowan of Ohio, Chairman; Messrs, Hereford)* of West Virginia, Bell of New-Hampshire, Scales of North Carolina, Candler of Georgia, Walsh of Maryland, Tarbox of Massachusetts, Rossi* of Peansylvania, Larrall* of Louisiana, Crounset* of Neuraska, and King of Minnesota.

On Expenditures on Public Buildings—Mr. METCALF of New-York, Chairman; Messrs, Wilson of West Virginia, Bagby (Ind.) of Illinois, Pratti* of Iowa, and Iownsend of New-York.

On Expenditures in the Nacy Department—Mr. BYEBE of New-York. Chairman; Messrs. Mills* of Texas, S. neakley of Pennsylvania, Barleigh* of Maine, and Baker of New-York.

On Expenditures in the State Department—Mr. Springen of Hilnois, Chairman; Messrs, Thompson of Massachusetts, Caldwell of Tennessee, Wallace of Pennsylvania, and Levenworth of New-York. On Expenditures in the Treasury Department—Mr. ELY of New-York. Chairman; Messrs. Brigat of Tennessee, Hartzell of Itinois, W. B. Williams of Michigan, and Plaisted of Maine.

On Accounts—Mr. Williams of Indiana, Chairman; Messrs. Roberts of Maryland, Powel of Pennsylvania, Hoskinst* of New-York, and Fort* of Illinois. On Expenditures in the War Department — Mr. CLYMER* of Pennsylvania, Chairman; Mesers. Rob-bins* of North Carolina, Blackburn of Kentucky, Bass* of New-York, and Dantod* of Ohio.

On I rependitures in the Post-Office Department—Mr. Stone* of Missouri, Chairman; Messes, Reagan of Texas, Walker of New-York, Stowell* of Virginia, Adams of New-York.

On Expenditures in the Interior Department—Mr. MCTCHLER of Pennsylvania, Chairman; Messis. Baone of Kentneky, Anderson (Ind.) of Illinois, Woodworth; of Ohio, Tufts of Iowa. On Expenditures in the Department of Justice-Mr. CAULFILLO of Hilmois, Charanan; Messre. Candler of Georgia, House of Tennessee, Starkweather of

Connecticut, Joges of Vermont. On Milenge-Mr. Egnear of Pennsylvania, Chairman; Messra. Bradford of Alabama, Odell of New-York, Caswell of Wisconsin, Walls' of Florida.

On Printing-Mr. VANCE of Ohio, Chairman; Messrs. Singicton of Mississippi, ballon of Rhode Island.

On Rules-The SPUAKER, Messrs, Randallt* Pennsylvania, Coxi* of New-York, Blainet* On Enrolled Bills-Mr. HARRIST of Georgia, Chair-

man; Messrs, Hamilton of Indiana and D Louisiana. On the Library-Mr. CLYMERI* of Pennsylvania, Chair nan; Messrs, 'Waadeil of North Carolina and Mon.oet' of Ohio.

Select Committee on the Centennial Celebration-Select Committee on the Centennial Celebration—Mr. H. Penns of Pennsylvania, Chatrana; Messrs, Hancock of Texas, Baraum of Connecticut, Itankstlath, of Massachusetts, Harrison of Illinois, O'Bren of Maryland, A. S. Williams of Michigan, Hardenburg of New-Jersey, Kellegt of Pennsylvania, Blaine of Maine, Lawrence of Ohio, Baker of New-York, and Lainey of South Carolina.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 20, 1875. To-day Senator Morton came near losing his pet resolution to investigate the Mississippi election, which he offered last week. On Friday several Democratic Senators requested the leader of the outrage faction in the Senate to postpone the consideration of his resolution for the appointment of a committee until after the holidays, to enable them to go home; but he refused to listen to them, hoping no doubt to bring up the resoultion to-day, and pass it without debate. This morning, however, the Democrate were in full force, and for a sime seemed to Democrats were in full force, and for a time seemen outlininger tae Keputhicans. They had returned in order to be present should any action be attempted, and a large namber of keputhicans were absent. In this changed condition of affairs, Mr. Morton aid not think it safe to press his resonation, and so he allowed it to go over until after the holidays.

It may be remembered that a short time ago an attempt was made to reopen an old land case, covering ground t Chicago occupied by the Illinois Central Rahroad Company, the Norta Western Elevator, and other property valued at several millions of dollars, and to obtain a de cision from the interior Department adverse to the present occupants. Such a decision was indeed given by Secretary Deisno; but it was reversed to-day by Secretary Canadidr. It seems that the attorney in the class took from the musty arenives of the Department the papers in the case, and so represented it to the President that he was deceived into making an indersement upon them, which give the case a start. It now appears that important papers were omitted from the humber of those submitted to the President, this omission being either intention of or centerial, the autorneys in the case were existently of or case were existently expensively of the land office Whise. Sir, Chandler's decision will proposely dispose of an similar cases known as "speculiarye" ones. cision from the Interior Department adverse to the [For regular report of Congressional Proceedings see 5th page.]

DECEMBER WEATHER.

INTENSE COLD IN CANADA.

HALIFAX, Dec. 20.-Reports of cold weather come from all parts of the country. At Windsor the thermometer marks 10° below zero; at Pictou, 15°, and

at Oxford and Cumberiand, 180.

TORONTO, Dec. 20 .- Another cold snap is prevailing throughout Canada. At Ottawn this mo, ning the thermometer indicated 33° below zero; at Quebec, 20°; Montreal, 20°; and Perry Sound, 23°.

St. John, N. B., Dec. 20.—To-lay was the coldest of

the season. The thermometer in this city showed 20° below zero at 6 o'clock; at Rothsay, 23°; at Hampton, 26°, and at other points in the Province still lower.

Boston, Dec. 20 .- Reports of intense cold

come in from all parts of New-England, the mercury ranging from 10° to 41° below zero. On Mount Washing ton it was but 10° below, and at 12 fleton 41°.

THE LAST BOAT ON THE HUDSON. NEWBURGH, N. Y., Dec. 20.-The extreme cold weather for the past 48 hours has closed the Hudson River as far south as Peckskill. The last trip of the season between here and New-York was made by the propeller Hasbrouck, with the barge Charles Spear of Homer nameded a Co.5 daily line. The mercury regis-tered 4° below zero here last night.

WEATHER NOTES.

GLENS FALLS, N. Y., Dec. 20 -The mercury registered here, at 4 o'clock this morning, 31° below zero. There is no what, but it is cloudy. On Sunday there was a very strong north-west wind, with bright, clear weather.

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., Dec. 20.-The weather in this section for the past few days has been intensely cold. The thermometer at Monticello this morning indicated 6° below zero, and in this village 4° below zero. The weather has moderated very much since morning. MILPORD, Penn., Dec. 20 .- Last night was

the coldest of the season. At 4 o'clock this morning the thermometer indicated 7° below zero. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20 .- James Albright, a watchman, was this morning found frozen to death on watchman, was this marang touch from the Schuylkii Race Street Wharf, at the western side of the Schuylkii River. He was employed in watching the new abbatoir. The deceased resided in German-st., above Third-st.

There has been very little change in Mr. O'Conor's condition during the past 24 hours. At 10 p. m. vesterday he was sleeping quietly. He received no visitors yesterday, although several persons called upon him. He partook of his usual nourishment

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION. MEETING OF THE FRENCH COMMISSIONERS.

Paris, Monday, Dec. 20, 1875. At a meeting of the Centennial Commission to-day it was announced that the application of France for an in-rease of space at the Exhibition Buildings at Philadelphia had been granted. The plans for the French

AMNESTY PROPOSED IN FRANCE. STORMY SCENE IN THE NATIONAL ASSESSILY.

PARIS, Monday, Dec. 20, 1875. The Assembly balloted to-day for Senators

without result. M. Naquet, a Radical leader, introduced a motion that amnesty be granted the Communists, and requested that it be declared "urgent."

The tumult which followed was indescribable The previous question was almost unanimously carried, the Left considering the motion, which cannot pass, an electioneering trick.

The affair causes a complete rupture between the Extreme Radicals and the Left.

SUEVIA SLIGHTLY DISABLED.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS. THE AMERIQUE IN DOCK AT QUEENSTOWN-THE

QUEENSTOWN, Monday, Dec. 20, 1975.

The Ville de Brest, which was sent in search of the disabled steamer Amérique, fell in with her 3d inst. at latitude 50° north, and longitude 18° west. A heavy gale prevailed and the sea was very rough until the 6th, when the Amérique was made fast to the Ville de Brest, to which vessel her passenger were transferred. The Ville de Brest, which arrived with

for Havre. The Amérique will go into dock. HAVRE, Monday, Dec. 20, 1875. The Hamburg-American steamship Suevia was detained here several days in consequence of a slight colliston off Cuxhaven. She will sail for New-York to-mor

the Amérique in tow on Saturday, sailed this afternoon

row. LONDON, Monday, Dec. 20, 1875. The steamer Faraday, having completed her preparations for repairing the Direct Cable, cleared to-day for New-Providence, Bahama Islands.

THE SPANISH WINTER CAMPAIGN.

SAN SEBASTIAN, Monday, Dec. 20, 1875. The Alfonsist General Moriones will begin his campaign by a movement for the relief of this place and Hernani, after which he is expected to advance on the Carlist position at Tolosa.

MADRID, Monday, Dec. 20, 1875.

Gens. Quesada and Campos have arrived at Saragossa The Cadiz papers assert that Count Marfori has been

CUBA AND PORTO RICO. COUNT VALMASEDA RESIGNS-HE COMPLAINS OF ILL-TRUATM NT. HAVANA, Dec. 20.-Captain-General Valma-

eda, considering the new rules introduced into the administration of the island by the Madrid Government incompatible with the power he ought to wield in view of his knowledge of the country and people and his past and present services, has for warded his resignation, which the King has accepted day. He will transfer the Government to the hands of Gen. Carbo, the next in rank, and will sail for Spain on

Ex-Capt.-Gen. Sanz has arrived here from Porto Ricc Rico, and also returns to Spain.

There was an earthquake in Porto Rico on the night of Dec. 8 and 9, which created great alarm. The Capital, San Juan, was not damaged; but the town of Arcebo was almost entirely destroyed. Two churches and only six houses remain, and they are so hadly damaged they may fail at any moment.

THE EUROPEAN GRAIN MARKETS. LONDON, Monday, Dec. 20, 1875.

The Mark Lane Express, in its weekly review of the grain trade, says:

Prices in several of our markets have declined a shilling. In Paris dour has been dult. The markets in Holland, Germany, Hungary, the Danubian Principalities, and Ezypt generally show no enange. At Dantzle, thus old wheat is a smilling higher, and best new is firm. At St. Petersburg quotations have fallen a shilling.

THE CANADIAN TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

TORONTO, Dec. 20 .- The deputation apted today upon Attorney-General Mowat in reference to the license question. The delegation stated that the meeting was of opinion that there should not be more than one tavern to each 1,000 people; that there should be no ilcensed saloons, and that no license should be given to shops which sell liquor and other goods to-gether. Leveral members of the deputation delivered addresses. The Attorney-General said his entire sym-pathy was with the opinions expressed, but he was not at liberty to say what course the Government migot adopt. He knew the members of the Government would

RELIGIOUS STRIFE IN CANADA.

London, Out., Dec. 20 .- An incident arising from the contentions in the Presbyteriau Caurch occurred yesterday. The non-unionists piaced new locks on the doors of St. James Cauren in order to prevent the Rev. Mr. Gordon preaching there to the absence of the Rev. Mr. cameron, the pastor. Mr. Gordon and other unionists thereupon entered the manse adjoining, occupied by the pastor's family, and held service there. The excitement caused by the squabble is increasing.

FOREIGN NOTES.

London, Dec. 20 .- A telegraph dispatch from Gov. Jervois states that there is a Chinese riot in Malacea, and he has sent troops there to restore order. LONDON, Dec. 20.-Lawton & Head, merchants' shipping and insurance agents, doing business at India Baildings, Queen Victoria st., this city, have failed. Their machines are estimated at \$950,000.

NANTES, Dec. 20.—The examination of the Greek sailors for complicity in the Lennie mutiny has

OTTAWA, Dec. 20.-The Premier has informed the Montreal deputation that all the work on the Lachine Canal possible to be done in Winter would be contracted for at once, and thus provide work for 1,000 men.

St. John, N. B., Dec. 20,-The bark Queen, from Belfast, Ireland, arrived here yesterday, having been 70 days out. The barks Irene, from Carnarvon, and Lydie, from Glasgow, are now three months out, and no traings have yet been heard of them.

QUEBEC, Dec. 20 .- In the Quebec Legislative Assembly, the Government Railroad bill, the amendment to the License act increasing the cost of licenses, and the hill to prevent all conflict between religious and civil authorities in regard to Roman Cauthode cemeteries, passed their final stages.

PROVIDENCE TOOL COMPANY.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 20.-Drexel, Morgan & Co. of New-York; Blake Bros. & Co. of Boston, and James Y. Smith, Royal C. Taft, and Henry L. Kendall of this city, have been invited to meet the officers of the Provid nee Tool Company to-merrow, for the purpose of making an examination of the affairs of the Company,

making an examination of the affairs of the Company, and such recommendations to the creditors as the committee may think advisable.

Larga.—The excitement concerning the failure of Greene & Cranston and the emograssment of the Providence Tool Company has much abated. The calls on banks were not unusually large, and an easier feeling prevails in the business community. The committee to examine into the affairs of the Tool Company meet to examine into the affairs of the Tool Company meet to morrow, and it is expected that arrangements will be made to continue work without interruption.

THE \$30,000 RACE APPOINTED.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—The Pacific Jockey Club met to-day. All the owners of the horses entered for the \$30,000 four-mile race were present. By unani mous agreement the race will come off on the 22d of Feb reary next. The Club guarantee to give a certified check for \$30,000, drawn to the order of the judges of the race, to be paid to the winner. All the original entries, aine in number, remain in. The best feeling prevailed. The Club and the owners of the horses are in perfect har-

PAYMENT ENJOINED ON CITY BONDS. New-Orleans, Dec. 20 .- Judge Woods today decided the case of Rosalie Maenhaul and others against the City of New-Orleans and others, in favor of

restraining the city authorities from paying out the funds collected for the payment of the interest on the consolidated bonds for other purposes. The out-standing consolidated bonds amount to \$4,142,000 and enough money is on hand, if not diverted, to pay the interest.

AUDITOR THAYER.

HE ADMITS BUYING THE CERTIFICATES. LONG AND ELABORATE WRITTEN EXPLANATION REFUSED-COMPELLED TO TAKE THE STAND-ALL THE CULPABILITY CHARGED SUBSTANTIALLY

CONFESSED. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, Dec. 20 .- The defense of Auditor Thaver before the Canal Investigating Commission began this morning after two days' delay on the part of the defendant. The excuse made by the Auditor for this delay was his personal ill health, and he looked careworn and weak enough to bear out the idea fully. He has nevertheless been incessantly engaged on his defense since the first presentation of the testimony against him, and was here from Troy upon that business during a good part of Sunday. The result of the two days' delay on account of ill health was seen in the production before the Commission of a long statement, which he called a defense, but which reads like a revised edition of all the campaign outeries against the Governor, which the Auditor made public at that time. The Commission, without knowing the tenor of the statement, announced that they would examine Mr. Thayer first, and he could present his statement afterward. The examination then proceeded. Mr. George W. Miller, a lawyer, who was at one time the Superintendent of Insurance, appeared as counsel for Mr. Thayen without, however, presenting any suggestions or objections to the conduct of the examination as it proceeded. The further hearing was adjourned, after nearly nine hours of steady questioning, until noon to-morrow, in order that all may attend the meeting of the Commissioners of the Canal Fund, the case of Mr. Thayer having been adjourned last week until to-morrow's meeting. It is probable that the Board, however, will fix another day of meeting, in order to allow of the finishing of the examination.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 20 .- The Canal Fraud Investigating Commission met this morning to continue the examination of Auditor Thayer. Some moments were spent in bearing the demand of G. W. Miller, Mr. Thayer's counsel, to allow a long statement by Mr. Thayer to be read. Mr. Bigelow said that the Commission did not propose to allow the record to be incum-bered with irrelevant material, and that an examination must first be had. Mr. Thayer was then examined at length. The material points in his testimony are as fol-

Certificates were issued on a warrant to pay Flagler & Re.liy for \$14,650, for work done prior to the 1st or May 1870. I was interested in these certificates. I consider that the law of 1870, which amends another law, justified

le75. I was interested in these certificates. I consider that the law of 1570, which amends another law, justified the payment of other anding certificates.

Mr. Orr—Did you think this law of 1870 authorized you to pay for work done in violation of law!

Mr. Trayer—I considered myself authorized to pay under the law; that is my construction of the law. The aggregate of my transactions with the Troy City bain were \$231,083 36. I have no record of these transactions except upon scraps of paper. I never kept in book account of them.

Mr. Orr—Have you those scraps of paper?

A. I may have; I don't know.

Mr. Orr—Wall you look for them?

A. I will; I have no concealment to make.

Q. How much money did you pay Dennison? A. As near as I can make it \$50,542 06, less nearly one month's interest; that I paid May 19; to my best recollection all I took was about a month's interest; I bought these for myself, and some 18 or 19 days after I paid myself, are Magone read the law staning it the day of the Auditor to require certain papers from engineers before paying ce, titicates or drafts.

Mr. Magone—All I had to do was to see they were in proper form.

Jar, Magone—All yet, being Auditor of the State, you

when the law requires you to such the finager—less Sir.

Mr. Magone—And yet, being Auditor of the State, you purchased certificates when you were to audit!

Mr. Thayer—less, Sir.

Ar. Magone—On whose account did you purchase certificates for G. A. Sione for \$33,000 f.

Mr. Frayer—that was on account of the Troy City Bank; it was on May 1; they were purchased of different parties—rlager and Kney, and N. L. Osborne; not adought on the same days; Osborne's was on May 20, at seven per cent interess, and for five or ten days; don't know how much it abounted to; I dian't know that the agreement to pay riseler, and Ricey, and Brown was made by my brother to pay a debt of this.

Mr. Magone—I find that you are put in possession of \$500,000 by the Controller to apply to this work before you made these purchases.

Mr. Thayer—You must bear in mind that borrowed

ays. air. Magone-You have sworth that you have good reason berrowing any money. Can you give any good reason berrowing any money to pay Osborn instead of buying his certain asset air. Thajer-All I can say is that the borrowed money

sir, Lager-All I can say is that the borrowed money had to be paid. I cannot say positively whether any was befrowed; the books of the Commissioners of the Canal rund wai show that.

[The book of the records of the Canal Commissioners was produced and examined.]

Q. when and you pay this \$135,000 spoken of here I. A. I can't say; the books will show.

Q. Suppose you paid the \$155,000, how much would be let, of the \$500,000 received from the Controller I. A. (the yould be controller).

entes, I corrowed the money from the Troy City Bank; I went to the bank with accale; he gave his note, but guaranced it; I bought he certificates and passed than over to air. Pierson, Fresidens of the bank, to hold them

Mr. Magone—Don't you remember t at we gave you notice, before the precase of these certificates, that they were mandment?

Mr. Magone—I know, and all the members of the Commission show it, for we gave you a written notice.

Mr. Thayer—I would not have advised their purchase if I had occulatorized they were fraudulent. I was assired that they were not transitient in an affidavit made by below Dewell. That affidavit I drew up. It was a part of the bargain that I was to have that ambuyit; I paid for the Whilard Johnson certificates 8 per cent off the bargain that I was to have that ambuyit; I paid for the Whilard Johnson eritheates 8 per cent off the bargain that I was to have that ambuyit; I paid for the Whilard Johnson certificates 8 per cent off the bargain that I was to have that ambunited to \$8,976 60, in addition to the accuracy interest, which amounted to about \$1,000; the gross discount was about 10 per cent; I seemed from the bank about \$0,000 more than the certificates which I gave as securicy amounted to.

The Anditor textified among other things that he de-

The Auditor testified among other things that he declined to pay certain certificates to owners, on the ground that the funds were not available. His testimony and the records show, however, that funds were available, and that he subsequently pur based the same certificates at a discount, and audited and paid them out of the same funds, on hand when he refused payments to the owners of these certificates. The Commission adjourned till 12 o'clock to-morrow.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES. LEBANON, Penn., Dec. 20.—The rolling mill at this place, of which Jean W. Bowman is the manager, employ-ing 100 men, resulted work this morating.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Several streaks of good ore have been passed in the Surro Tannel during the past few days. The rock being softer, the progress of the tunbel is now took or tasks.

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—At a meeting of the Boston Commercial Exchange to day, a motion appropriating \$10,000 in any of the Pongasceps of pridge and the direct Western route project was voiced down by a large majority. POST JERVIS, N. Y., Dec. 20.—The religious re-vival in this city was insed last evening. The number of con-versions are over 700 in the Methodat Church, and the converts in the other churches will raise the number to hearly 8.0.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 20,—The famous trotting stallon Rhode Island, formerly of the Sprague farm, but pur-chased on Friday by Licut. 1907. Sisson, deci yesternay of in-tanumation of the nowels. It is reported that the price paid by Sisson was \$6,000.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20.—In consequence of some derangement of the heating apparatus at the 19-pot Church, Mesers, Moody and Sansey head their noon prayer meeting today in the Rev. Dr. Mccood's Prospeteran Caurch, on Breat st. The Rev. W. T. ava of the Bethesia Church, and that 28 lew members were restently added to his church, and mamber of whom and been converted by the revival. NASHUA, N. H., Dec. 20.—A locomotive, in attempting to rue on to the turn-table of the Nashua, Acton and Boston tuttiroud, was thrown into the pit, and the engineer, small ligar, was killed.

BRUNSWICK, Me., Dec. 20.—The house of Richard Melener was robbed by burglars last night of \$650 and two gold watcher. Air, Melcher und a desperate struggle with the laieves, but they made their escape.

BROOKLYN'S HOPE DEFERRED

FURTHER DELAY IN THE RING SUITS.

BLISS'S POSITION.

ARRESTS AND ATTACHMENTS ABANDONED-THE RE-SPONSIBILITY OF THE TAX-PAYERS' ASSOCIA-TION-THE RING LIKELY TO ACT ON THE OF-

Service of papers in the Brooklyn Ring suits has been again deferred by inquiries into the responsi bility of the Tax-payers' Association for initiating suite It was at one time determined to make arrests if a certain affidavit could be obtained, and, in any event, to attach the property of the defendants. Both purposes have now been aban-doned, and neither prests nor attackments will be made. It was found that in order to attack prop erty the Tax-payers' Association would be required to costs of the actions. The lowest estimates made the sun necessary for this security \$50,000. This responsibility the Tax-payers' Association declined to assume. But the chief reason for declining to make attachments was that liable to damages for malicious prosecution in case of

the actions are to be brought in the name of the State. Lumors of counter actions by Kingsley & Keeney and rife in Brooklyn on Saturday and Sunday, the friends of the former alleging that the suits were the result of a conspiracy begon originally by Harvey Parrington and Demas Barnes, the others of the Committee of Taxpayers being afterward drawn into it. They allege that both the above-named citizens were disappointed candi dates for the Democratic nomination for Mayor, and thes they are actuated by revengeful motives. Mr. Farring acted in the matter only for the general good, had no mallcious motives whatever, and in fact had not been particularly active in the matter. From persons inter ested on both sides it was finally understood that the theory of conspiracy was about as follows:

The tax-payers in the beginning distrusted Mr. De

Witt, Corporation Counsel, and desired to have some other person prosecute the Ring. Mayor-elect Schroeder til he came into office on Jan. 1, when he promised that the suits should be vigorously proscouted by Mr. De Witt. The tax-payers decided, however, to go forward, and made their application to the Attorney-General, in order, as the friends of the king say, to make the State the plaintiff and thus avoid the responsibility of begin-ning suits in their own name. The Ring's defenders claim further to have proof that Mr. Parsons was actually paid \$500 by the Tax-payers' Association to examine the papers, make only an exparts inquiry into the evidence and on this partial showing advise the Attorney-Genera to bring the suits in the name of the people of the State. It is asserted by men near the persons of the men looked upon as the Ring, but was are not understood to speak authoritatively, that the lawyers retained for the defense have given it as their opinion that this consti-tutes conspiracy. They assert further that it was through the personal representations of Mr. Barnes and Mr. Farrington that the Attorney-General was induced to propose and the Tax-payers' Association to accept Mr. Parsons, who is the private attorney of both gentlemen The Ring leaders claim that the members of the Tax-payers' Association either were deceived into making this arrangement or were parties to it, but which they have no means of determining. The tax-payers deny the Association was in no sense a party to the suit. When asked if E. T. Backhouse, Samuel Hutchinson, Nathaniel Cothren, Mr. Woolworth, and himself, who constitute the were not made the plaintiffs and required to give bonds he said that the State only was the plaintiff. In an a tion for conspiracy or for damages for malicious prose cution, the malice must be proven, and it was well known by a desire to help the citizens of Brooklyn to relief from ton denied his activity or responsibility in the matter. It was also learned that Mr. Parsons did not receive his pay for the preliminary report to the Attorney-General from either Mr. Barnes or Mr. Parrington, but from Mr.

Mr. Kingsley, when neked about any countercharge and suits against the Tax-payers' Association, answered in his usual slow and guarded manner, intimating that if he had anything to say on the subject he would not tell it to THE TRIBUNE. "You have brought suit against the City of Brooklyn for a large sum ?" "Yes; but that's matter of record" "And do you contemplate suits against any of the tax-payers ?" "Oh, that's another matter." The lawyers of Mr. Kingsley were equally reti-cut. Rumors that they had been before the Grand Jury their adherents that " they ought to indict them," mean

ing, of course, the tax-payers. IMPLEADING A. M. BLISS.

Priends or Congressman Bilss have urged upon the Tax-payers' Association the impolicy of impleading him with the others, but thus far without success. It was represented to them toat Mr. Bliss was a minority in the Water Board, that he persistently voted against the Hempstead Reservoir scheme, and finally resigned when he saw that the majority were determined to carry through the scheme; and that as far as the Third ave. sewer is concerned, the record shows that the only act by intion to dismiss the first contractor on the application of a majority of the residents in the district who alleged enipable delay on the part of the contractor. The taxpayers, on the other hand, while admitting that they have no other proof against Mr. Bliss than this record claim that they had to include him in the suite because he was a Republican, and to omit him would give color for the charge by the other members of the Board that the fight to a purely political one. The fact that Mr. Bliss was elected to Congress as a Democrat and Liberal, and took part in the Democratic caucus, was urged as an effect to this argument. The tax-payers claim also to think that Mr. Bass knows all about operations in the Board, and that to bring suit is the best way to make him tell. The friends or Mr. Bliss resent this as an insult, declare that te knows nothing of any corrupt collusion, and say that to begin his career in Congress by turning State's evidence in municipal matters would make Mr. Riss as uscless as one of his colleagues of Pacific Mail fame. His friends say that if impleaded it will be because certain of the Tax-payers' Committee mave been "stuffed" by his enemies into the belief that he knows all about the corruption in Brooklyn, and that instead of remaining on the defensive to be saed with men with whom he never had other than official and political relations, he will bring suits against certain of his accusers and force their proof. Many of the Taxpayers' Association, such as ex-Mayor Booth, Samuel hutchinson, D. C. Cronin, A. C. Davis, and others, think that an error is being made by impleading Mr. Biliss, but the Committee of Five appear resolved upon this action,

THE FIRE RECORD.

INSURANCE ON THE HELEN MORRIS. Boston, Dec. 20 .- The ship Helen Morris, recently burned on her passage from Shields to San Francisco, was insured here for \$57,500, in the Chius,

Manufacturers', New-England, and Boston Companies, \$10,000 each; Mercantile, Neptane, and Boylston, \$5,000 each, and Salem Marine, \$2,000. EXPENSIVE USE OF A HOT POKER. Boston, Dec. 20 .- At 6 a. m. to-day the

Rice Grammar School, on Dartmouth-st., was see tally set on fire by the janitor while thawing a steampipe with a red-hot poker. The flames ran up the vents laters and destroyed the upper story and a part of the second. Loss, \$25,000; no insurance. AT LITTLE ROCK, ARK.-LOSS, \$53,000.

lock was destroyed by an accidental fire this morning. The building was a three story brick, 50 feet front by 100 feet deep. The less of E. Woodruff, proprietor of The Gasette, is estimated at \$42,000; insurance, \$18,000. Beverni other firms lost libraries, etc. Hass, eigar and liquor dealer, lost \$11,000; insurance, \$6,000.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 20 .- The Gazette

IN THIS CITY.

The four-story brown-stone house of Dr. J. T. Evans, at No. 36 East Thirty-first-et, took fre from a defective flue yesterday afternoon, and the building and furniture were damaged \$2,000. The property is insured for \$20,000 in the Continental Insurence Company.